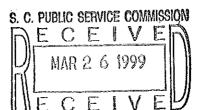


DIRECT TESTIMONY

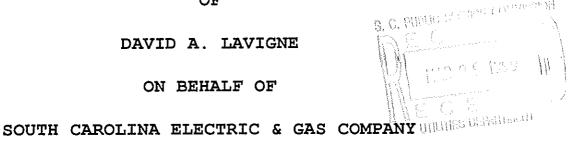


OF

DAVID A. LAVIGNE

ON BEHALF OF

DOCKET NO. 1999-002-E



1

2

3

5

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND POSITION Q. WITH SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY (SCE&G).

- My name is David A. Lavigne. My business address is Α. Post Office Box 88, Jenkinsville, South Carolina. I am employed by SCE&G as the General Manager, Nuclear Support Services at the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS).
- PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND Q. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.
- I have a B. S. Degree in Management from the University Α. of South Carolina. I possess a Senior Reactor Operator Certification. I spent six years in the Navy Nuclear Power Program including assignment on a nuclear submarine. I have been employed by SCE&G since January 1977. I have held positions of Quality Assurance Specialist; Associate Manager, Quality Assurance; Manager Nuclear Quality Control;

Manager, Materials and Procurement; General Manager, Nuclear Safety; and have held my present position of General Manager, Nuclear Support Services, since January 1994.

In this position I am responsible for Nuclear Licensing and Operating Experience activities, the major quality and technical overview activities for the safe operation of V. C. Summer Nuclear Station, physical security and emergency planning of the station, Nuclear and Craft Training, and the facilities and administrative organizations.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

- A. The purpose of my testimony is to review the operating performance of the VCSNS during the period March 1, 1998 to February 28, 1999.
- Q. WHAT ARE YOUR MAJOR OBJECTIVES IN THE OPERATION OF THE VCSNS?
- A. At the VCSNS we strive to maintain the highest level of performance consistent with maximum safety consideration.

 Our corporate mission, with respect to all plants, is safe, reliable, efficient operation. We emphasize safety continuously and, to that end, we meet or exceed all Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") requirements and Institute of Nuclear Power Operations ("INPO") standards.

 Our performance objective for Nuclear fuel procurement has

been to reduce the overall cost through contract negotiations,

which also have reduced the lead time for purchasing the fuel.

- Q. WHAT HAS BEEN THE COMPANY'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE PERFORMANCE
 OF THE VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION?
- A. The VCSNS has performed extremely well during the period of March 1, 1998 to February 28, 1999. During this period, the unit capacity factor was 101.2 percent outside of maintenance downpowers. With maintenance activities included, the capacity factor was 99.515 percent. The unit availability was 100 percent and the forced outage rate was 0.0 percent.

 For comparative purposes, INPO tracks nuclear plant capability factors. A graph is attached to show how the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station compares to the rest of the industry as of the end of February 1999 Exhibit No. ___ (DAL-1).
- Q. WHEN WILL THE NEXT REFUELING OCCUR?
- A. April 3, 1999 through May 2, 1999

- Q. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT RATING BY THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY

 COMMISSION AND THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONS?
- A. The Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance system (SALP) is an NRC program used to periodically measure how well a Licensee is implementing NRC regulations. The results are provided in numeric form with a 1.0 as the best grade. The SALP assesses a Licensee's performance in four areas: maintenance, operations, engineering, and plant support. The NRC completed a comprehensive review of the V. C. Summer Nuclear Station in July 1998. We received an overall grade of

- 1.0 in the report dated August 26, 1998. In July 1997, the station also recieved an INPO rating of 1, which is the highest possible rating.
- 4 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 5 A. Yes

